

The Mayor and Council of Hurlock

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REV. CHARLES T. CEPHAS, SR.
MAYOR
JOHN H. AVERY
TOWN MANAGER
ROBERT MERRIKEN
TOWN ATTORNEY

COUNCIL MEMBERS
DAVID HIGGINS
BONNIE FRANZ
RUSSELL C. MURPHY, JR.
JOCK ORR
EARL H. MURPHY, JR.

MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING June 12, 2023

6:00 PM Call to Order

Opening Prayer – Rev. Dickerson

Roll Call - Councilmembers present; E. Murphy, Higgins, Orr, Franz, R. Murphy, Mayor Cephas, Attorney Merriken, and Manager Avery

Approval of Agenda - Motion Orr, second R. Murphy, vote 5/0.

Approval of Minutes – April 24, 2023, motion E. Murphy, second Orr, 5 in favor/0 opposed.
May 8, 2023, motion E. Murphy, second Higgins, 5 in favor/0 opposed.
May 22, 2023 Work Session, motion R. Murphy, second Higgins 4/0

Mayor's Report – Mayor Cephas introduced town engineer, Mr. Rob Duma, to review the bids for replacement of the public works warehouse. **His recommendation was to award the bid to Harper & Sons in the amount of \$293,153, well qualified and the low bidder. Motion to award to Harper by E. Murphy, second R. Murphy, 5 in favor/0 opposed.**

Mayor Cephas presented a proclamation to Principle Stoffa from North Dor. Upper School. The proclamation was read by Councilman Higgins. This is his 3rd year as principle and 29th year in public education. Mayor Cephas introduced Rev. George Ames, Judge of the Orphans Court, and praised him for his work in civil rights and dedication to our young people. Councilman Orr read the proclamation.

Chief Jones read the proclamation for retiring police dog Marlee. Marlee served from 2018 to 2023 and was an ambassador for the town as well.

Police Report – Chief Jones read the May Police Report. Chief described the recent car thefts that have taken place from Cambridge to Salisbury and Hurlock have been done by juveniles for 12 to 16 years old. Police handled crowd control for an elementary school parade. E. Murphy commented on vehicle thefts by youths. Chief Jones said a lot has been caused by utube. There

are videos that describe how to steal these vehicles. Orr said Maryland is concentrating on providing services and activities. You have to look at the whole picture not just a little piece. Cephas said that people live in a different world. Kids do not have role models. Cephas asked Cederick Turner how he was mixed up with drugs? Turner said Cephas' intervention changed his life.

Manager's Report – Avery said that concrete work will start at Middle Street, asphalt patches are being done. Avery has been working with the state on having the property where the train station and pavilion are transferred to the town. Hardware store demolition is to start. The culvert work on Neelson Street is still scheduled to be finished. Permit for the banners is being finalized. Ms. Budd is planning on starting to install banners prior to July 4th. She has been informed that Hurlock has still not gotten the pole agreement from Delmarva Power.

County Council Lenny Pfeffer said that the county budget has been approved without a tax increase this year. SHA has been notified that pedestrian traffic in Hurlock is an issue. HUR funds had been drastically cut several years ago. They are finally being restored.

New Business – Avery said that Mr. Henry VanDyke has applied for a food truck license. The truck is to be placed on his property on Delaware Ave. The placement will be outside of the 200' exclusion area from Goose Creek and E&L. Motion to approve E. Murphy, second Orr, 5 in favor/0 opposed.

Comments: Franz mentioned the yard sale to be on July 8th. Avery said he has 7 applications already. Higgins reminded that schools are closed for summer. There will be breakfast and lunch programs at the elementary and high school. Meals are being provided by a state program. E. Murphy asked Chief Jones to investigate loud music coming from a garage in Woodsedge. The Chief said he will investigate the complaint. He also asked if permits are required for Planet aide clothing boxes? Answer, no. Orr said Hurlock is a small town with big values.

Public – Cederic Turner said he is planning a Juneteenth Celebration for kids at Prospect Park and asked for funding. Orr said he thought that was still \$2,000 in the budget for those functions, Avery said yes there is.

Rick Price said he is the new Lions Club President and will try to help the town any way he can. Mayor Cephas said we will need help with the new library. Orphans Court Judge George Ames said the judges are trying to get kids to do things right.

7:50 Motion to Adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted:


John Avery
Town Manager

Mayor Cephas:

Councilmembers:

